Walking Tour

Of

Historic Saint Boniface Church

Welcome to St. Boniface Church. Founded in 1836, we are the oldest extant Catholic Church in Louisville. The original church stood on the site of the parking lot and school. In 1898, St. Boniface got permission to build the present, larger church building.

This walking tour will help to point out the many historic items that were transferred from the old church. We hope you will find this interesting.

As you enter the vestibule, you see three, brass light fixtures. These and the three above the front steps of the church are from the original church and, if you look closely, you can still see the gas key used to light the fixture. When installed, all lights were gas and electricity.

On the left wall, you see the large crucifix bought in 1924 and on the right, the pew rent board. At that time, the church took up no collections and was supported by pew rent - with the most expensive rent being at the front of the church.

Entering the center doors of the vestibule, the first thing you see is the marble baptismal font. Made in Italy in 1918, it is a memorial for a priest's first Mass. The glass sculpture which serves as the bowl was made by the son of a parishioner and was a generous gift.

To your right, you see the stature of St. Theresa of the Little Flower.

On the outside east wall is the statue of the Sorrowful Mother bought by Father Lucas in 1875 and made in Munich. Also lining the east and west walls are the 14 Stations of the Cross. They were added in 1910 and made by the Louisville firm of Lausberg and Macke.

The windows are among the most beautiful stained glass in Louisville. They were made in Munich in 1898 and 1899, especially for St. Boniface, by the Royal Bavarian Art Institute.

The Windows from the rear east side going toward the altar are:

1. Saints Margaret and Colette
2. Saints Louis and Elizabeth
3. Saints Henry and Antoinette
4. Our Lady of Lourdes